

# Not Even Close and No Cigar

## A few instances where things went haywire in the nuclear industry

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# I daho Samizdat

- A blog about nuclear energy
- Covers political, economic news about nuclear energy and nonproliferation issues
- Now in 3<sup>rd</sup> year of operation
- Among the top five nuclear blogs globally
- Readers in 70 countries and all 50 states
- 43,000 page views in 2008, will double readership in 2009

# No industry is immune from folly

- Covering the global nuclear industry requires restraint
- Some situations are so absurd you could not invent them
- Lots of people put their foot in the bucket
- It takes real effort to get on the highly selective list of “things that went bump in the night”

# Into the drink

- \$1.4 billion Point Lepreau nuclear plant refurbishment delayed
- Two new 107 ton turbines dumped from barge into harbor
- Siemens is steaming



# Hung out to dry

- Idaho penny stock outfit claims to be building 1,600 MW reactor
- Files “slap suit” against anti-nuke group
- Charges Twin Falls foot doctor with assault
- Fails the baloney test with just \$400K in the bank



# Unclear on concept

- New York wants to shut down Indian Point
- But has no idea where or at what cost it will get 2.5 Gwe of fossil power
- NRC kicks disruptive activists out of relicensing hearing



# Sorry about that

- Vermont Yankee relicensing controversial
- Reactor employees incompetent
- State senate leader incoherent
- Decommissioning fund insolvent
- Want fries with that?





# What me worry?

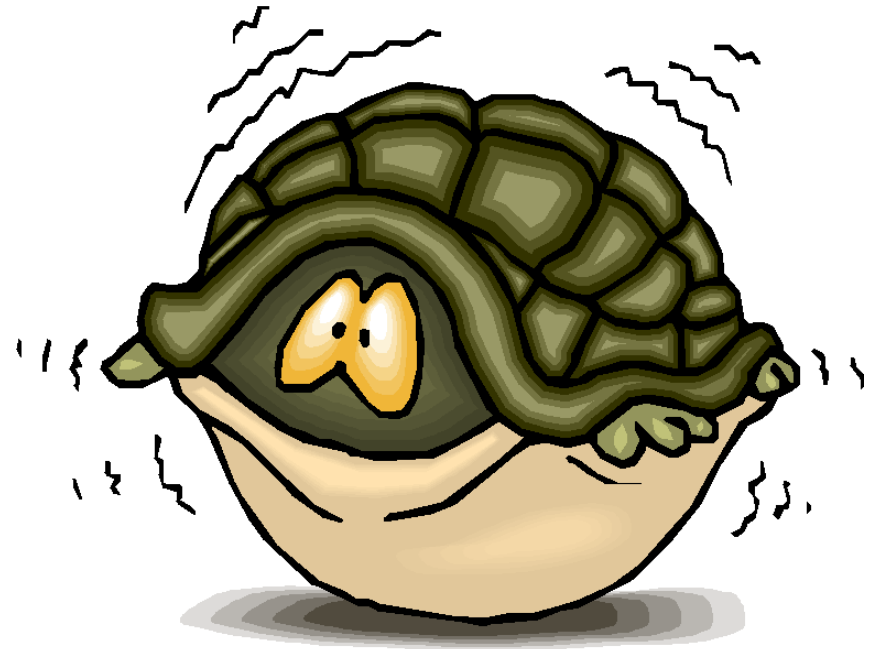
- Trophy home builders in Colorado back country ignore historic mining rights at their peril
- Uranium miner exercises rights, gets drilling permit
- It is easy to be green if you don't know what you are talking about





# What me worry (2)?

- “Green city” of Ft. Collins, CO, opposes ISL mine 20 miles away and up gradient
- Irrational fears spark legislative opportunism
- Miner complies with state laws, gets permit



# A talking frog? That's interesting!

- Governor Chris Gregoire would sooner kiss a frog than let Areva build a \$2 B enrichment plant in her state
- Idaho bags it. Richland cries the blues
- Governor gets re-elected by "green vote" west of the Cascades



# One Turkey, No Waiting

- Turkey bobbles first nuclear tender
- Drives off 13 bidders
- Gets one proposal from Russia at 3X going rate for electricity
- Still undecided months later
- What “renaissance”?

Illustration by Ian Whadcock



# Loose Nukes

- Pelindaba nuclear plant break-in featured on CBS 60 Minutes a year after it took place
- South African authorities have no suspects
- Was the motive theft or intelligence?



# Lucy you got explaining to do

- Utah's Transition Power plans to build 3 Gwe nuclear plant and wheel most of the power to Los Angeles
- But it wants the Utah rate base to guarantee construction costs
- Water may be the limiting factor



# Germany rides the nuclear fuel cycle

- German Chancellor Andrea Merkel offers green groups \$56B in subsidies for solar, wind power in return for keeping 17 nuclear plants in operation
- They turn her down
- She'll win, they'll lose  
Sept '09 election





# Ms Atom

- Annual beauty contest sponsored by Russian nuclear industry
- Like Ms. America except on protons – must be hot stuff in a bikini
- Pictures and slogans required from contestants





# Ms. Atom (2)

Ms. Atom slogans

- “Every particle is perfect”
- Makes electrons spin with just one glance

Here's this year's winner,  
a true Russian ice  
breaker to thaw out  
relations with the west



# Pro-nuclear seal of approval

## Nuclear blogs

- Idaho Samizdat
- Atomic Insights
- Nuclear Green
- Blogging about the unthinkable
- NEI Nuclear Notes
- World Nuclear News



# Q & A

## Questions & Answers

### Idaho Samizdat

<http://djysrv.blogspot.com>